

## Message Text

SECRET

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11

ORIGIN SS-14

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 FILE-01 SSO-00 ADP-00 EA-04 /021 R

66660

DRAFTED BY: S/ S- O: JSNYDER

APPROVED BY: S/ S- O: KAKURZE

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O 220739 Z APR 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 075889

TODEP 147

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, CB

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO USIA SECDEF CJCS CINCPAC

USSAG APRIL 22, FROM PHNOM PENH REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE:

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 3810

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, CB

SUBJECT: PRESS STORIES RE CIVIL WAR IN CAMBODIA

REF: STATE 075870 ( NOTAL)

1. CONSIDER BRIEFING FROM WHICH REFERENCED REPORTING  
CAME TO HAVE COMPLIED WITH AUTHORITATIVE COUNTRY  
TEAM- DEPARTMENT POSITION ON NATURE OF ENEMY.

2. BRIEFING WAS BACKGROUNDER ON CURRENT MILITARY  
SITUATION CONDUCTED BY PAO WITH ASSISTANCE ASSISTANT  
ARMY ATTACHE. BECAUSE OF ABSENCE OF MOST OF PRESS AND  
LIMITED TIME OF ATTACHE, BRIEFING BEGAN WITH  
QUESTIONS PUT TO ATTACHE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION  
ON FIGHTING IMMEDIATELY AROUND PHNOM PENH, HE INDICATED  
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OPPOSING INFANTRY TO BE LARGELY KHMER INSURGENT, BUT SAID THEY CONTINUE TO BE ENCADRED, TRAINED, SUPPLIED AND SUPPORTED BY VC/ NVA, WHO ALSO GENERALLY MAN THE CREW- SERVED WEAPON. HE NEITHER SAID NOR INTIMATED THAT WAR HAS BECOME EXCLUSIVE CONTEST BETWEEN GUERRILLAS AND GOVERNMENT FORCES. LARGER NATURE OF CONFLICT WAS NOT TOUCHED UPON AT THAT TIME.

3. REST OF PRESS CAME IN AS ATTACHE LEFT. ORIGINAL QUESTIONER READ HIS NOTES TO THEM, AND FROM THEIR QUESTIONS POINT THEY WERE TRYING TO MAKE BECAME EVIDENT. PAO THEREFORE ENLARGED ON ROLE OF VC/ NVA, POINTING OUT THAT SAPPERS CONTINUE TO BE NORTH VIETNAMESE, AS EVIDENCED BY VC INVOLVEMENT IN FIGHTING ALONG MEKONG, RECENT INCIDENTS WHERE FROGMEN HAVE PLANTED CHARGES AGAINST BOATS MOORED IN PHNOM PENH, AND OCTOBER RAID ON CAPITAL. HE POINTED OUT THAT WITHOUT HEAVY LOGISTIC SUPPORT AND WITHOUT HANOI DIRECTION, INSURGENT MOVEMENT WOULD PROBABLY WITHER TO POINT WHERE FANK COULD COPE WITH IT OR IT WOULD EVENTUALLY COME TO TERMS WITH KHMER GOVERNMENT.

4. CONSIDER PRESS TO HAVE ENLARGED ON INITIAL STATEMENT REGARDING FIGHTING IMMEDIATELY AROUND CAPITAL AND TO HAVE TAKEN IT OUT OF CONTEXT OF WHOLE BRIEFING.

5. OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE MILITARY SITUATION HAS NOT RPT NOT CHANGED. AS GIVEN MOST RECENTLY TO SFRC STAFFERS LOWENSTEIN AND MOOSE ( PHNOM PENH 3807), IT IS THAT THE KHMER INSURGENTS HAVE BEEN FIGHTING WITH NVA/ VC LOGISTIC, ADVISORY AND INCREASINGLY DIRECT COMBAT SUPPORT. SWANK UNQUOTE PORTER

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 22 APR 1973  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980128  
**Subject:** PRESS STORIES RE CIVIL WAR IN CAMBODIA  
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